

Appl. No.: 10/533,193
Amdt. dated May 14, 2008
Reply to Office Action of December 28, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound characterized in that it is chosen from:
 - ~~the~~ a peptide represented by the sequence SEQ ID No: 1 below:

SEQ ID No: 1 Lys-Ala-Lys-Pro-Val-Gln-Lys-Leu-Asp-Asp-Asp-Asp-Gly-
Asp-Asp-Thr-Tyr-Lys-Glu-Glu-Arg-His-Asn-Lys

and also:

- ~~the homologs of this~~ said peptide exhibiting at least ~~60%~~ 80% similarity
with the sequence SEQ ID No: 1 and comprising from ~~15~~ 20 to ~~40~~ 30 amino acids,

~~the derivatives of this peptide selected from:~~

~~the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of this peptide;~~
~~the functional fragments of this peptide;~~
~~the chemical analogs of this peptide, chosen from those in which:~~
~~one or more amino acids of the peptide sequence have been replaced with their D enantiomer;~~
~~one or more amide peptide linkages (-CO-NH-) have been replaced with an isosteric linkage~~
~~such as: CH₂NH, CH₂S, CH₂CH₂, CH=CH (cis and trans), COCH₂, CH(OH)CH₂ and~~
~~CH₂SO; one or more amino acids have been replaced with a non-natural amino acid,~~

~~the chemical derivatives of this peptide, chosen from: des-alpha~~
~~amino peptide compounds; substituted N-alpha-acyl derivatives of the form RCO, in which R~~
~~represents an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or aralkyl group, that is linear, branched or cyclic,~~
~~comprising from 1 to 50 carbon atoms; derivatives substituted on the C-terminal acid function~~
~~with a group chosen from NH₂, and alkyloxy, alkylthio or alkylamino of the form OR, SR or~~
~~-NHR, in which R represents an alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl chain or an aralkyl group, that is~~
~~linear, branched or cyclic, comprising from 1 to 50 carbon atoms, derivatives carrying a~~
~~pharmacophore substituent, polymers of this peptide.~~

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2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The peptide A compound~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein it is a functional fragment of the peptide SEQ ID No: 1 or said homologs capable of inducing an immune response.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A protein consisting of a ~~peptide compound~~ as claimed in claim 1, coupled to a carrier protein.

7. (Withdrawn) An antibody produced by immunization of an animal with a peptide as claimed in claim 1.

8. (Withdrawn) The antibody as claimed in claim 7, produced by immunization of an animal with the peptide of sequence SEQ ID No: 1.

9. (Withdrawn) The antibody as claimed in claim 7 wherein it is a polyclonal antibody.

10. (Withdrawn) The antibody as claimed in claim 7, wherein it is a monoclonal antibody.

11. (Withdrawn) A fragment or derivative of an antibody as claimed in Claim 7 selected from the group consisting of Fab, F(ab')2 and ScFv fragments.

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12. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid that encodes a peptide as claimed in Claim 1.
13. (Withdrawn) A vector comprising a nucleic acid as claimed in claim 12.
14. (Withdrawn) A recombinant cell comprising a nucleic acid as claimed in claim 12.
15. (Withdrawn) A nonhuman transgenic organism comprising a nucleic acid as claimed in claim 12 in its cells.
16. (Withdrawn) A nucleotide probe or primer comprising a nucleic acid as claimed in claim 12.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Withdrawn) A kit for detecting, *in vitro*, the presence of pathogenic leptospiral strains in a biological sample or contaminated water, comprising a probe or an oligonucleotide or a pair of primers as claimed in claim 16.
21. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound peptide or a protein or an antibody or a nucleic acid as claimed in claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier support.
22. (Previously Presented) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein it is a vaccine.

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23. (Withdrawn) The composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein it is a preparation of anti-PP antibodies for therapeutic use.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Withdrawn) An antibody produced by immunization of an animal with a protein as claimed in claim 6.

27. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid that encodes a protein as claimed in claim 6.

28. (Withdrawn) A recombinant cell comprising a vector as claimed in claim 13.

29. (New) A compound according to claim 1 comprising the pharmaceutically acceptable salts of said peptide or said homologs.